

TRANSLATION

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference PG 06187WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/014022	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 09.12.2004	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 22.12.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC F16D33/06			
Applicant VOITH TURBO GMBH & CO. KG			
<p>1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p>3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau</i>) a total of 3 sheets, as follows:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> (<i>sent to the International Bureau only</i>) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).</p> <p>4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the report</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>			

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/014022

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

 - international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
 - international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished
 the description:
 pages 1, 3-8 as originally filed/furnished 12.07.2005 with telefax
 pages* 2, 2a received by this Authority on _____
 pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the claims:
 nos. _____ as originally filed/furnished
 nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19 01.02.2006 with letter of 30.01.2006
 nos.* 1-8 received by this Authority on _____
 nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:
 sheets 1/3-3/3 as originally filed/furnished
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
 sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____
 the claims, nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/figs _____
 the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
 any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/014022

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1–8	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1–8	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1–8	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

1. This report makes reference to the following document:

D1: GB-A-1 424 704 (FRANCAISE DU FERODO SA) 11
February 1976 (1976-02-11)

2. D1, which is considered to be the closest prior art, discloses (see figure 3) a hydrodynamic coupling from which the subject matter of claim 1 differs in that

- the channels are provided in the drive shaft,
- the at least one supply channel and the at least one evacuation channel extend at least across a predetermined section in the axial direction in the drive shaft, the at least one evacuation channel being situated on a larger perimeter in relation to the at least one supply channel, and
- the supply channel is in the form of a central working medium channel on the longitudinal axis of

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

the drive shaft from the axial end of the drive shaft, which is remote from the working chamber, up to at least approximately the other end of the drive shaft and is surrounded by a plurality of evacuation channels which are situated radially outside thereof.

3. The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)).
4. The problem to be solved by the present invention can therefore be regarded as that of providing better and simpler sealing between the supplying and evacuation of medium.
- 4.1. The solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application involves an inventive step for the following reasons (PCT Article 33(3)):

sealing between the channels can be carried out in an especially simple manner owing to the fact that only one seal is necessary for all the channels.
5. Claims 2 to 8 are dependent on claim 1 and therefore also meet the PCT requirements for novelty and inventive step.